

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A gastric ring of the type comprising an elongate element that is deformable into a loop between a distal end portion and a proximal end portion, and closure means  
5 suitable for folding said elongate element into a loop and for securing the distal and proximal end portions to each other once they have been brought close together by looping the ring, wherein at least the elongate element is made of a resorbable material.  
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2. A gastric ring according to claim 1, wherein at least the elongate element is made of a material that is resorbable slowly over a period of about or less than  
15 2 years, and preferably lying in the range 16 months to 24 months.
3. A ring according to claim 1, wherein at least the elongate element is made of a poly- $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid, preferably a lactic polyacid, and more particularly a  
20 poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide).
4. A ring according to claim 1, wherein the elongate element is made up of a proximal link, a distal link, and intermediate links hinged about pivot axes.  
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5. A ring according to claim 4, wherein each link has an inner face for coming into contact with the stomach when the ring is put into place, and two internal end faces in  
30 which at least those portions that are situated close to the inner face are oblique and radially convergent so that during closure of the ring all of said radial portions of the internal end faces are pressed against one another and the inner faces of the links constitute a substantially continuous constriction surface.  
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6. A ring according to claim 5, wherein each intermediate link includes, projecting from a first internal end face,

a shoulder forming a pivot axis between said link and a first adjacent link, and in its second internal end face, a recess forming a housing for the shoulder of a second adjacent link, the shoulder and the recess being of dimensions to be suitable for being mutually interengaged.

7. A ring according to claim 1, wherein the closure means comprise at least one tie secured to at least one of the proximal and distal end portions.

8. A ring according to claim 7, wherein the tie is resorbable with a resorption period that is longer than the resorption period of the elongate element.

9. A ring according to claim 4, wherein each link has two through holes, together forming in the set of links two alignments of holes for two passes of a single tie from the proximal link to the distal link along the first alignment and then from the distal link to the proximal link along the second alignment.

10. A ring according to claim 1, wherein the closure means comprise locking means formed at least in part in the proximal and distal end portions of the elongate element, in particular in the proximal and distal links, namely a male engagement element in one end portion and a female engagement element in the other end portion.

11. A ring according to claim 10, wherein the male element is a stud and the female element is a recess.

12. A ring according to claim 7, wherein the proximal end portion, possibly the proximal link, includes a tube fitting for passing the tie or the two free ends of the tie, the tube fitting being shaped for securing to an

ancillary for introducing the ring, and in particular being threaded for screw-fastening to said ancillary.

- 5 13. An ancillary for introducing a ring according to claim 12, being constituted by a tube provided with a handle which is fitted with a mechanical system, in particular a winding or ratchet wheel, enabling the tie or the two free ends of the tie to be put under tension.